

SENATE BILL NO. 214

INTRODUCED BY B. TASH

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING CERTAIN PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; SUBSTITUTING "UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA-WESTERN" FOR "WESTERN MONTANA COLLEGE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA"; REVISING THE AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS REGARDING THE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM TO CONFORM WITH FEDERAL LAW; AMENDING SECTIONS 5-6-102, 20-25-253, 20-25-254, 20-25-255, AND 20-26-1103, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 5-6-102, MCA, is amended to read:

"5-6-102. Establishment of program. It is the public policy of this state that there be a legislative intern program open to students attending the university of Montana-Missoula, Montana state university-Bozeman, Montana state university-Billings, Montana state university-northern, ~~western Montana college of the university of Montana~~ Montana-western, and Montana tech of the university of Montana or a state-funded, 2-year postsecondary institution. A private college of higher education or a tribally controlled community college in the state may also establish an intern program for the purposes of this chapter."

Section 2. Section 20-25-253, MCA, is amended to read:

"20-25-253. Purpose of ~~western Montana college of the university of Montana~~ Montana-western. ~~Western Montana college of the~~ The university of ~~Montana~~ Montana-western has for its primary purpose the instruction and training of teachers for the public schools of Montana."

Section 3. Section 20-25-254, MCA, is amended to read:

"20-25-254. Donations to ~~western Montana college of the university of Montana~~ Montana-western. The regents may accept for and on behalf of ~~western Montana college of the university of Montana~~ Montana-western any donations of lands and any other gifts for the use and benefit of the

1 college."

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3 **Section 4.** Section 20-25-255, MCA, is amended to read:

4 **"20-25-255. Acceptance of public lands.** (1) The regents ~~shall~~ must receive, in the names of
5 ~~western Montana college of the university of Montana~~ Montana-western and Montana state
6 university-Billings, all benefits derived from the distribution of lands contemplated in section 17 of an act
7 of congress, approved February 22, 1889, entitled "An Act to Provide for the Division of Dakota Into Two
8 States and to Enable the People of North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Washington to Form
9 Constitutions and State Governments and to be Admitted Into the Union on an Equal Footing With the
10 Original States, and to Make Donations of Public Lands to Such States".

11 (2) The regents may, in carrying out the provisions of Title 20, pledge one-half of all interest and
12 income derived from the land grant for the payment in whole or in part of notes, bonds, or other
13 obligations issued by the regents for residence halls or other facilities at ~~western Montana college of the~~
14 university of ~~Montana~~ Montana-western or at Montana state university-Billings, provided that any pledge
15 ~~shall~~ must be subject to any prior pledge."

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17 **Section 5.** Section 20-26-1103, MCA, is amended to read:

18 **"20-26-1103. Duties of the board.** In discharging its duties in relation to the student loan program,
19 the board shall:

20 (1) act as guarantor and administrator on loans of money, upon terms and conditions ~~as~~ that the
21 board may prescribe, to assist persons attending or accepted for enrollment at an eligible educational
22 institution to meet their educational expenses;

23 (2) approve financial or credit institutions or other lenders as eligible lenders upon their meeting
24 the standards established by the board for making student loans;

25 (3) incur and discharge debts, including defaulted loan obligations that have been guaranteed by
26 the board;

27 (4) make and execute agreements, contracts, and other instruments with any public or private
28 person or agency, including the United States secretary of education, for the administration of the student
29 loan program;

30 (5) provide for the operation of the student loan program to conduct loan approval processing,

1 essential and special loan servicing, preclaims assistance, supplemental preclaims assistance, claim
2 processing and collections, and other services that would promote lender and school participation and loan
3 availability to students;

4 (6) perform any other duties necessary for the administration of the student loan program and
5 other student financial aid-related activities for the benefit of students as determined by the board."

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7 NEW SECTION. **Section 6. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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